

BUFFALO COUNTY, WI

COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2021 – 2025



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Section 1

The Health Department acknowledges and extends sincere appreciation to the following community partners and Health Department staff for their contributions to the Buffalo County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) process.

Community Members

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DEFINITIONS

Section 2

Priority: highest level thinking about what needs to be accomplished, core themes

Goal: broad, major initiatives that need to be undertaken to address a priority area

Objective: interim steps that address a goal; should be SMART

SMART Goal: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound.

Action Steps: specific steps that need to be taken to meet the objective

Timeline: time frame within which the objectives will take place

Responsible Party: the person or entity responsible for ensuring an objective is met.

CHA: Community Health Assessment.

CHIP: Community Health Improvement Plan.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Community Health Improvement Plan is to mobilize Buffalo County Residents, organizations, and stakeholders to collaboratively address issues that impact health.



OUR COMMUNITY

Section 4

Buffalo County includes 4 cities, 17 towns and 2 villages. The population of Buffalo County is 13.5K. 22.7% of the population is 65 and older, and 19.6% of the population is 0–17 years old. Buffalo County has 4 school districts with kindergarten through 12th grade and one private grade school. The median household income is \$57,829. The main industry in Buffalo County is manufacturing.

Buffalo County Public Health professionals monitor the health of the community and promote healthy practices and behaviors through a variety of programs including communicable disease prevention, environmental health, and Maternal and Child Health.

Buffalo County Public Health

The mission of Buffalo County Public Health is to empower communities to live better longer by preventing disease, protecting health and assuring safety.

TIMELINE

Fall 2020	Surveys distributed, CHA data collected
Spring 2021	CHA Stakeholder meeting
Summer 2021	CHA data review and CHIP planning
Fall 2021	Stakeholder Meetings
Winter 2021	Finalize 2021-2025 CHIP

BACKGROUND

The Buffalo County Health Department, in collaboration with Great Rivers United Way began the process of conducting a new Community Health Needs Assessment in early 2020. The assessment gathers information from community members about various aspects of life in our county and determines ways to address those identified needs. The Community Health Needs Assessment is sent out every 3 years and surveys Buffalo County residents on various aspects of life including; health, income, education, public safety, quality of life and community.

The comprehensive data review, in combination with the results from the random survey, resulted in identifying top health focus areas for Buffalo County. A public community meeting was held on September 29, 2021. Participants focused on review and discussion of compiled data on the current health status of Buffalo County citizens. After reviewing the data, attendees voted to prioritize the top health focus area for Buffalo County. The top health priority for Buffalo County that was identified was mental health.

Mental Health and Youth

- 27.3% felt hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks in a row.
- 19.5% seriously considered suicide in the last 12 months.
- 11.7% made a plan for how they would attempt suicide in the past 12 months.
- 10.2% did attempt suicide in the past 12 months.

YRBS 2017

Mental Health Access & Treatment: Patient to provider ratio

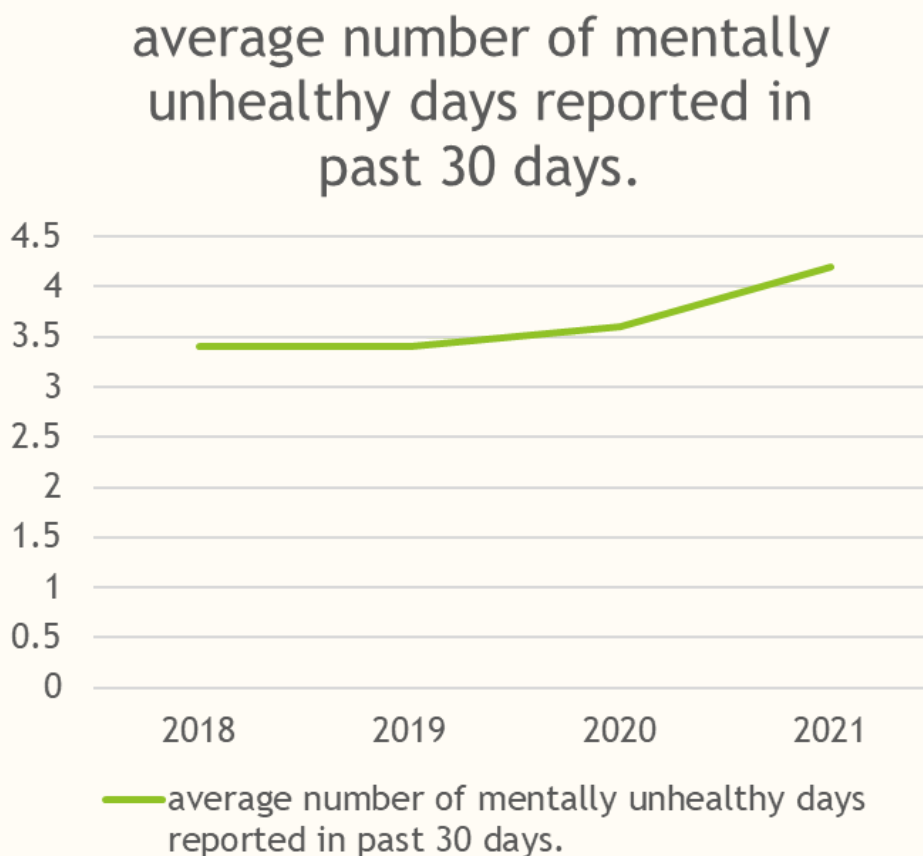
- Buffalo County Patient to Provider Ratio (2020) 13,030:1
- State of Wisconsin Patient to Provider Ratio (2020) 470:1

2017 Estimated Mental Health Treatment Gap

- 69% of adults (age 18+) with a mental illness went unserved.
- 52% of youth (0-17) with a mental illness went unserved.
- 67.95% of Buffalo County Residents with a mental illness went unserved.

COMMUNITY DATA CONTINUED

- 32 Self-Inflicted Injuries resulting in hospitalization in 2020
- In 2018, 2019, & 2020 11% of adults in Buffalo County reported “frequent mental distress”
 - Frequent Mental Distress is the percentage of adults who reported 14 or more days in response to the question, "Now, thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?"



PRIORITY: MENTAL HEALTH

Section 8

Goal 1: By January 2025, the gap between mental health prevalence and mental health treatment will decrease by 2% for Buffalo County Residents by increasing access to mental health resources and services. (Compare 2020 CHA data (67.95%) to 2024 CHA data)

Objective 1A: By December 2024, Buffalo County Health and Human Services and partners will create two partnerships with mental health service providers.

Objective 1B: By December 2024, funding sources for mental health services will be identified, and applications will be completed.

Objective 1C: By December 2024, Buffalo County and Community Partners will have developed and maintained a guide of mental health resources.



PRIORITY: MENTAL HEALTH

Goal 2: By January 2025, Buffalo County Health and Human Services and community partners will identify three priority populations and deliver mental health education and promotion tailored for those priority populations.

Objective 2A: By December 2022, three priority populations will be identified and selected.

Objective 2B: By December 2023, Buffalo County Health and Human Services and community partners will engage priority populations in mental health education and promotion planning efforts.

Objective 2C: By December 31st, 2024, health education and promotion will be delivered to priority populations.



PRIORITY: MENTAL HEALTH

Goal 3: By January 2025, Buffalo County Health and Human services and partners will create a campaign that promotes acceptance, educates, reduces stigma, and engages buffalo county community members.

Objective 3A: By December 2024, Buffalo County Health and Human Services, along with community partners, will host one community event a year.

Objective 3B: By December 2024, Buffalo County Health and human services, along with community partners, will partner with AODA to build a mental health component into school training for Buffalo County students.

Objective 3C: By December 2024, Buffalo County Health and Human Services, along with community partners, will work with employers to create mental health professional development.

Objective 4D: By December 2024, Buffalo County Health and human services, along with community partners, will create or adopt a mental health social media campaign that any Buffalo County community partner can use.

NEXT STEPS

a. How can community members get involved in the initiatives?

Community members may contact Buffalo County Public Health if they wish to get involved in any of the initiatives, all community health improvement plan meetings are open to the public.

b. Who should be contacted for more information?

Mickey Ganschow: 608-418-0850

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c. What happens next?

The Buffalo County Health and Human Services staff and community partners will document their progress and share accomplishments with the community twice a year. The community health assessment and community health improvement plan will be reevaluated and updated in 2025. Updates can be found on the Buffalo County website <http://www.buffalocounty.com/331/Public-Health>.

REFERENCES

Section 10

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/wisconsin/2020/rankings/buffalo/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>

<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/wisconsin/2021/measure/factors/62/description?sort=sc-0>
Source: 2019 Wisconsin Mental Health and Substance Use Needs Assessment. Wisconsin Department of Health Services-Division of Care and Treatment Services.

https://www.greatriversunitedway.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021-compass-now-report_final-web.pdf

https://www.greatriversunitedway.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/compass-2021_white-paper_mental-health-111021.pdf

2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Buffalo County

Special thank you to Great Rivers United
Way for your help and support

